

Serial No. 10/700,244

Atty Dkt No. 706630US1

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REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's comments in the Final Office Action and has prepared the following response.

Claims 1-8 remain pending in this application. By this paper the Applicant has cancelled claim 20 and incorporated its limitations into independent claim 1, and amended claim 8.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Ingold (3,691,846). Claims 9-20 have been cancelled. Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection, and requests reconsideration in view of the above mentioned amendments and the following comments.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner indicated that claims 8 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this amendment Applicant has amended claim 1 to include all the limitations of claim 20. As such, claim 1 is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Additionally, Applicant has amended claim 8 so as to be consistent with the language as now provided in amended claim 1. It is believed that as a result of this amendment claims 2-8 are now allowable because of their dependency from amended claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant makes this amendment to expedite allowance of present application, and as such, the amendment is not to be construed as a concession to Examiner's position regarding the rejected claims. By amending the claim as provided, Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application to allow further prosecution of broader claims.

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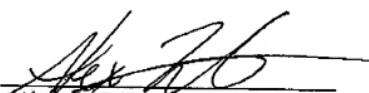
It is believed that the stated ground of rejection has been properly addressed. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment as it puts this case in condition for allowance and does not otherwise raise any new issues. If the Examiner determines that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite allowance or resolve any further questions, such a conference is invited at the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

8/10/07

By:


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